

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) An arrangement in a spinning preparation machine, comprising:

a clothed roll having clothing presenting free ends;  
flat bar slide elements;

clothed flat bars having clothing presenting free ends and cooperating with the clothing of the clothed roll, the flat bars having slide guides which glide on the flat bar slide elements; and

a measuring apparatus comprising at least one sensor arranged for detecting a distance between a reference surface on at least one of the slide guides and the flat bar slide elements, and at least one of the free ends of the clothing of the clothed roll and the free ends of the clothing of the clothed flat bars.

2. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the reference surface is a slide surface of the flat bar slide elements, and

the sensor determines a distance between the free ends of the flat bar clothing and the reference surface.

3. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1,

wherein the reference surface is a surface of the slide guides for the flat bar slide elements, and

the sensor determines a first distance between the free ends of the clothed roll clothing and the reference surface.

4. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 3, wherein the sensor determines a second distance between the free ends of the flat bar clothing and the reference surface.

5. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 4, wherein a carding clearance between the free ends of the flat bar clothing and the free ends of the clothed roll clothing is determined by subtracting the second distance from the first distance.

6. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sensor is a light section sensor.

7. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sensor is a displacement sensor.

8. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sensor detects distance differences.

9. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sensor detects absolute distances.

10. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the flat bars are part of traveling flats of the machine.

11. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sensor ~~senses~~ is adapted to detect wear of the flat bar clothing based on the distance between the reference surface and at least one of the free ends of the clothing of the clothed roll and the free ends of the clothing of the clothed flat bars.

12. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sensor senses a distance between a measuring surface of the sensor and slide surfaces of the flat bar slide elements.

13. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sensor senses a distance between a measuring surface of the sensor and a slide surfaces of the slide guides.

14. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1,

wherein the sensor senses a distance between a measuring surface of the sensor and the free ends of the clothed roll clothing.

15. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the measuring apparatus detects said distance in a region where ~~a zone of the flat bar slide elements which is in engagement with~~ engage the slide surfaces of the slide guides ~~is utilized for the measurement.~~

16. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 4, wherein a distance between the flat bar clothing and the clothed roll clothing is set using the determined distances.

17. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sensor is connected to an electronic control and regulating device.

18. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein a device for setting a distance between the flat bar clothing and the clothed roll clothing is connected to the electronic control and regulating device.

19. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 18,

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wherein the electronic control and regulating device has a memory for storing desired values of the distance between the flat bar clothing and the clothed roll clothing.

20. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 19, wherein one of a switching process and an indication is triggered when the distance between the flat bar clothing and the clothed roll clothing exceeds one of the desired values stored in the memory.